



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

BRUCE A. BUHLER

SERIAL NUMBER: 09/236,373

EXAMINER: PRICE

FILED: JANUARY 25, 1999

GROUP ART UNIT: 3743

FOR: MULTIPLE FLAME TORCH APPARATUS

TC 3700 MAIL ROOM

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HONORABLE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS & TRADEMARKS,
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In connection with the above-identified patent application, and further in connection with the attached Information Disclosure documents, one of the cited **PRIOR ART** references is that of **Japanese Patent 7-156995**, however, it is noted that an English translation has not been included herewith. An English translation has in fact been ordered and will be subsequently filed in the Office within a short period of time.

Respectfully Submitted,
SCHWARTZ & WEINRIEB


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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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SIR:

In connection with the above-identified patent application, and the prosecution thereof before the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and in compliance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 CFR 1.56, Applicant hereby desires to make of record, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97, the following **PRIOR ART** of which Applicant is aware and which is also listed upon the attached **PTO FORM 1449**:

Drummond	U.S.P. 2,378,001
Coutu	U.S.P. 1,499,202
Keevil	U.S.P. 995,017
Hoeveler et al.	U.S.P. 316,785

Information Disclosure Statement
MULTIPLE FLAME TORCH APPARATUS
BRUCE A. BUHLER



French Patent 1,078,578
Japanese Patent 7-156995

UNIWELD CATALOG, 1969, Pages 3 and 5

The present invention, in connection with which the present patent application is being prosecuted, is directed toward a multiple flame torch apparatus wherein, in accordance with the unique and novel structure characterized by the present invention, the flame torch apparatus comprises a tip head wherein the arcuate extent of the tip head is within the range of 240°-280° so as to facilitate the insertion of the member to be heated into the interior of the tip head in a radial manner through a side portion of the tip head. In addition, the outlet end of the tubular stem is connected to a middle portion of the arcuate tip head, and two of the flame orifices are disposed at terminal ends of the arcuate tip head so that, together with the third orifice, a substantially complete circumferential flame array for substantially completely heating the entire circumferential extent of the member can be achieved with a minimum of three flame orifices as clearly shown in the left side of **FIGURE 2** of the patent drawings.

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Information Disclosure Statement
MULTIPLE FLAME TORCH APPARATUS
BRUCE A. BUHLER

While the cited **PRIOR ART** is relevant to the present invention in that the **PRIOR ART** discloses conventional multiple flame torch apparatus, it is submitted that such **PRIOR ART** patent publications cited above do not disclose the particular aforenoted features of the present invention, and therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the examiner should merely consider such **PRIOR ART** in its proper perspective, make the same officially of record, and proceed with completion of the examination of this patent application.

Respectfully Submitted,
SCHWARTZ & WEINRIEB



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